

PRESS RELEASE

CHRISTIANE LÖHR

curated by Dobrila Denegri

opening: Wednesday 19 May 2004, 6.30 pm
Studio Stefania Miscetti
via delle Mantellate 14 - 00165 Rome, Italy
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open until: **25 June 2004 - until 15 July by appointment**

opening hours: **4pm to 8 pm, Monday to Friday**

Christiane Löhr's works are based on direct contact with nature, in which the artist finds her materials: seeds of plants such as wild thistle, ivy, for sculptures that look like daily objects or small architectures, horsehair for ornamental "drawings" made in a wide variety of dimensions. When she makes her sculptures, Christiane Löhr seems to be guided by the idea of an inner geometry of the seeds shapes, which look like models for an imaginary architecture that is surprisingly light and fragile but strong and solid at the same time. Alongside her research on nature in its variety of shapes, Christiane Löhr holds a strong interest towards ancient and sacred architecture, such as the fascinating structures of Western cathedrals or, as in her most recent work, Hindu temples and Far East holy places. As she says, these places "*bring about a different kind of physical perception, making us feel closer to the sky or to the earth: a completely different point of view*".

In her solo show at Studio Stefania Miscetti in Rome, Christiane Löhr will realize an installation made of very light ivy seeds constructions placed on a horizontal plane, that branch off and expand onto the walls so that they create a spatial drawing which hints, through dynamics of full and void, to an aspiration to reach a perfect harmony and balance. This series of new works also includes a spatial horsehair "drawing", that stems from one point and develops around it – right as in the plans of some ancient architectures – occupying the surrounding space with a slow and subtle movement.

Christiane Löhr's work can be connected to the teachings of some of the great masters of 20th-century art: the positive and utopian spirituality of Joseph Beuys, the frailty and expressive power of small-scale works by Marisa Merz, natural laws, time cycles and energy fluxes explored by Robert Smithson and Walter de Maria, the preciousness and ailing power of nature that can be traced in the work of Wolfgang Laib. Some of these issues seem to be present and urgent, maybe now more than ever, and this young German artist deals with them in an entirely personal manner, giving back to art its constructive and positive spirit and proving once more its capacity to create "light" projects and utopias.

The exhibition is realized with the kind support of:



Christiane Löhr

Born in 1965. Lives and works between Cologne (Germany) and Prato (Italy)

Solo shows

- 2004 Fattoria Villa Celle, Pistoia
Galerie Werner Klein, Colonia
- 2003 *Christiane Löhr*, Hancock Museum, Newcastle
Villa Romana, Firenze
Galleria Salvatore + Caroline Ala, Milano
Wie die Dinge den Raum berühren, Kunstmuseum Bonn (cat)
Nassauischer Kunstverein Wiesbaden (cat)
- 2002 Kunstverein Münsterland, Coesfeld (cat)
- 2001 *Un lavoro: un'opera, un'installazione di Christiane Löhr una poesia di Nico Orengo*, già VIA NUOVA per l'Arte contemporanea, Firenze
- 2000 artothek, Köln
Camera Oscura, San Casciano dei Bagni, Italia
- 1998 Galleria Salvatore + Caroline Ala, Milano (cat)
Galerie Hafemann, Wiesbaden, Germania
Forum Kunst, Rottweil, Germania (cat)
- 1998 *Objekte*, Studentisches Kulturzentrum, Belgrade
- 1997 *Objekt und Zeichnung*, Associazione artistica, Trier, Germania
Das Übergewicht des Kleinen, Mittelrhein-Museum, Koblenz (cat)
- 1995 *Objekte und Installationen*, Galerie Brückenturm, Mainz, Germania

Group shows (selection)

- 2004 *Settlements*, Musée d'Art Moderne de Saint-Etienne, Saint-Etienne
Cabinet des Dessins, Musée d'Art Moderne de Saint-Etienne, Saint-Etienne
- 2003 *Il racconto del filo. Cucito e ricamo nell'arte contemporanea*, Museo d'arte moderna e contemporanea, Rovereto (catalogo)
Gran Segno de Cantato, Palazzo Ducale, Gubbio
- 2002 *Illumination*, Marvelli Gallery, New York
Basics, Kunsthalle Bern (catalogo)
Continuità. Magnete. Fattoria di Celle, Pistoia, curated by Angela Vettese (cat)
Paradiso perduto / Paradise lost, Palazzo dell'Arengo, Rimini (cat)
40 Jahre: Fluxus und die Folgen, Nassauischer Kunstverein Wiesbaden, curated by René Block
- 2001 49° Biennale di Venezia, Sezione Arsenale curated by Harald Szeemann (cat)
L'Immagine, la parola, Centro per l'Arte Contemporanea Luigi Pecci, Prato, Italy
Real Presence, Belgrade
Camp, Leire, Denmark
- 1999 Galerie S., Aachen, Germany
Fondazione Il Giardino di Daniel Spoerri, Seggiano, Italy
Cité Internationale des Arts, Paris
The Secret Life of Plants, Galerie Conrads, Düsseldorf
Eingemacht, Frauenmuseum, Bonn
- 1997-1998 *Claus Brunsmann, Brigitte Dams, Ursula Habermacher, Bärbel Schulte Kellinghaus, Christiane Löhr, Sandra Voets*, Galleria Salvatore+Caroline Ala, Milano
- 1997 Galleria S, Aachen, Germany
15 + 15, Cultural Capital of Europe 1997, Thessaloniki, Greece
BASIS, opera di 28 artisti, Museum Insel Hombroich, Germany
Klasse Kounellis, Salon des Museums der Modernen Kunst, Belgrade
- 1996 *FIELD*, Künstlerforum, Bonn
Klasse Kounellis, Königliche Akademie der Bildenden Künste, Den Haag, Holland
Giovani artisti del Rheinland-Pfalz, Artistic Association Ludwigshafen,
Europäische Akademie Trier und Galerie Mennonitenkirche, Neuwied, Germany